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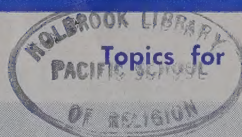
CHRISTIAN ENDAVOR

Mr. Jay Stillson Judah, Librarian
Pacific School of Religion G as Mar 61
1798 Scenic Avenue
Berkeley 9, California



World

MARCH, 1961



80TH ANNIVERSARY HONORED IN UNIQUE DESIGN WITH 881 PRECIOUS STONES

For Christ and the Church...

THE CHRISTIAN ENDEAVOR World

Cover

This unique design, approximately 4" in diameter, appeared in the window of a downtown jeweler in Columbus, Ohio, during Christian Endeavor Week. The 1638th precious stone design created by M. D. Hohenstine, certified gemologist, since 1927, it incorporates 281 diamonds, 291 rubies, 293 marcasites, and 16 black onyx.

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The Voice of Christian Endeavor

MARCH • 1961

Volume 76, Number 7

Daniel A. Poling	Editor-in-Chief
Phyllis I. Rike	Editor
Bert H. Davis	Associate Editor
Delno W. Brown	Topics Editor
Harold E. Westerhoff	Publisher

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MEMO

from the General Secretary

GOD HAS BEEN GOOD

Recently a long-time annual member of the International Society sent in his renewal annual membership, a check for Fifteen Dollars. Here is what he said: "I have sent a good many checks in the past 60 years. My income is not so much as it used to be. But God has been good to me in giving good health all these years. I am now 83 years old and have been a Christian Endeavor member since 1896. With all good wishes and God's richest blessings."

Yes, God has been good—and to Christian Endeavor through these 80 years. Will you, out of thankfulness to God, join this man in enrolling as an annual member during this 80th anniversary year. Your participation is needed now more than ever before.

CHRISTIAN AMERICANS

International Christian Endeavor's 1960 Christian Citizenship Crusade has won wide acclaim and a very significant award. The Distinguished Independent Awards Jury of Freedoms Foundation at Valley Forge selected Christian Endeavor's Citizenship program as the recipient of the George Washington Honor Medal in the Spiritual Values category. The medal was accompanied by an awards check for \$500.

In writing of the award, Kenneth D. Wells, president of Freedoms Foundation, says: "You have been chosen from great numbers for our Foundation's highest award after thorough research, study and review. Your work has been exemplary in the propagation of the American way of life, responsibility, citizenship and patriotism."

We salute those young people and societies who participated in this award-winning program. We salute Delno W. Brown, incumbent citizenship director, who assembled the entry for submission to Freedoms Foundation and directed the details of the award-winning program. We salute Robert C. Ross, former citizenship director, under whose leadership the program was developed and initiated.

Constantly our prayer is that through this emphasis on Christian life and living God may be glorified and Christ exalted.

SOCIETY ROLL CALL

There is still time for your society or union to enroll in the 80th Anniversary Year Society Roll Call. In doing so you help the international ministry of Christian Endeavor, and at the same time you may help to select the Endeavorer of the Year.

The selection of the Endeavorer of the Year will be made from nominations by Christian Endeavor societies and unions who enroll in the Society Roll Call during January, February, or March. The first award will be a free trip to Chicago and the 1961 convention. There are three additional attractive awards.

Your society or union will also receive a handsome certificate for display in your meeting room. Societies giving \$15 receive a blue seal certificate. Red seals are used on certificates to those groups giving \$30 while gifts of \$50 or more merit a gold seal.

Enroll today and receive your nomination form.

IN MANY LANDS

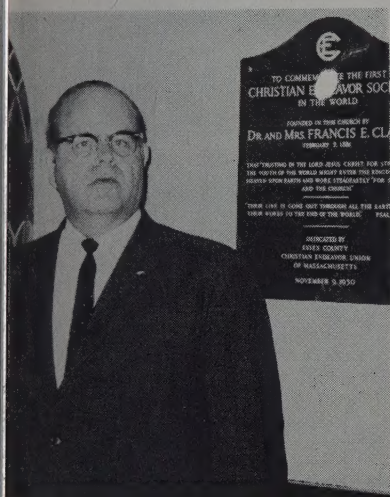
As you are reading this I am experiencing my first Around-the-World trip. Christian Endeavor fellowship is in store for me in a dozen lands. If all of the coupons in my air ticket were laid end to end they would measure 21-1/3 feet. The temporary inconvenience from eight injections for four possible major infections is now forgotten and I am looking forward to an experience of a lifetime. I shall hope to share some of those experiences with you.

Harold Westerhoff

80TH BIRTHDAY CELEBRATION



Report of Anniversary Events At Williston Church



Harold E. Westerhoff, general secretary of the International Society and the World's Union, stands beside plaque in Williston Church commemorating the first Christian Endeavor society.



Keith Bartley (right), president of the Christian Endeavor society at Williston Church, Dr. Earle W. Gates (left), and Harold E. Westerhoff stand behind pulpit used in 1881 by members of the first society.



Dr. Clyde W. Meadows (right), president of International Society, with Rev. W. Lloyd Williams, minister of Williston Church in Portland, Maine, are pictured before Korean banner at Anniversary Banquet.

When Endeavorers gathered at Williston Congregational Church in Portland, Maine, on February 2, the snowy streets and below-zero weather were reminiscent of that wintry day eighty years earlier when the movement began.

Two special events were held at the church in honor of the 80th anniversary—a rally on the actual birthday, February 2, and a banquet on February 4.

Dr. Clyde W. Meadows, president of the International Society, spoke at the rally, on the subject, "The Lord Appeared." Others who participated in the service were Rev. W. Lloyd Williams, minister of Williston Church; Dr. Earle W. Gates, immediate past president of the International Society; Keith Bartley, president of the Williston Christian En-

(Continued on next page)



Posing in the former parsonage of Williston Church at 62 Neal Street in Portland, in the room where the first Christian Endeavor constitution was signed, are (left to right) Mr. and Mrs. J. P. Starbuck, Elwood Dunn, Delna W. Brown, Dr. Clyde W. Meadows (seated), Phyllis I. Rike, Ralph E. May, and Mr. and Mrs. Raymond W. Coburn, present owners of the home.



Christian Endeavorers of Williston Church to serve the Anniversary Banquet February (left to right) Nancy Jo Davis (past pres Sally Willis, Ann Sawyer, Steven Arms Marjorie Hatch, Bradford Tukey, Martha Phyllis Cushman (also past president), West, and Keith Bartley (current president)

Seated at the head table of the Anniversary Banquet are (left to right) Keith Bartley, Delno W. Brown, Rev. J. Wesley Siebert, Carroll M. Wright, Phyllis I. Rike, Rev. W. Lloyd Williams, Dr. Clyde W. Meadows, Mrs. Williams, Harold E. Westerhoff, and Allan J. Blair. The Korean banner hanging on the wall had just been received, through a young woman of the church who was in Korea during the war. When she met Christian Endeavorers there and they found she was from the church where the movement began, they sent the colorful banner through her to Williston Church, to be displayed among other mementoes of the movement.

(Continued from page 3)

deavor society; and Harold E. Westerhoff, Delno W. Brown, and Phyllis I. Rike, International Society staff members from Columbus Headquarters.

A heavy snowstorm so tied up transportation in New England on February 4 that Dr. Daniel A. Poling, president of the World's Christian Endeavor Union, the banquet speaker, was unable to travel farther than Boston. Stranded with him was the banquet toastmaster, Norman Klauder of Philadelphia, a vice-president of the International Society. Many others who had planned to be present also found it impossible to reach Portland.

Dr. Clyde W. Meadows filled in admirably as the banquet speaker, with Rev. W. Lloyd Williams doing a fine job as toastmaster. Carroll M. Wright, former executive secretary of the International Society, gave the invocation.

Another highlight of the anniversary celebration was a visit on February 4 to the former parsonage of the church, where the first Christian Endeavor society was organized.

Due to the weather conditions, Massachusetts Endeavorers canceled the anniversary rally set for Park Street Church in Boston on Sunday afternoon, February 5. Dr. Meadows was scheduled to speak and Endeavorers from all over New England had planned to be present.



"God reveals Himself through prepared youth," said Dr. Meadows in his anniversary rally message. Reviewing the history of the movement, he said that it grew "from the heart of Francis E. Clark and a handful of youthful followers in Williston Church to a world-wide movement in fourteen brief years."

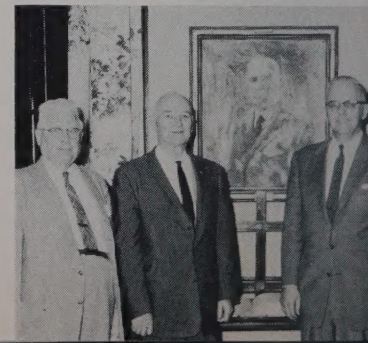
Fifty-seven signed the original constitution and covenant of the first society. By 1885 the movement had spread across the continent and into Canada. In 1895 the World's Union was organized at the Boston Convention, where 56,000 delegates registered.

Dr. Meadows also said, "It was thought at one time that we should do something 'to' youth to prepare them for life and so they received lectures from their parents and teachers. Later the idea developed that in preparing youth something could be accomplished by doing things 'for' them and so we had picnics for them, Christmas treats for them, prepared programs for them. Now we know that the best way to prepare youth for real Christian living and service is to do things 'with' them. We

learn best by doing. Christian Endeavor has always operated on the principle of youth participation. Dr. Clark laid the foundation of Christian Endeavor on total and pledged commitment to Christ and loyalty to the church through personal attendance at all her services as well as sharing in the real business and work of the church."

Speaking of the needs of youth Dr. Meadows declared, "This is a time but a time of tremendous opportunity and challenge. Christian Endeavor has the answer. While it encourages members to share in happy Christian fellowship, Christian Endeavor insists on a full personal commitment to Christ without reservation. This is expressed in the pledge, which begins 'Trusting in the Lord Jesus Christ for strength, I promise Him that I will do whatever He would like to have me do.' Commitment to and faithful observance of the high purposes expressed in the Christian Endeavor pledge are the basis on which God can reveal Himself in our generation."

Members of International Society's Finance Committee before the portrait of Dr. Francis E. Clark in the Clark Museum Room at Williston Church are (left to right) Carroll M. Wright, Merritt L. Smith, Julian Moran, and Allan J. Blair, chairman. The committee met February 3 in Portland, followed by sessions of the Executive Committee February 3 and 4.



1961 Outdoor Posters on Display--Thanks to These Companies!

Christian Endeavorers throughout the United States and Canada have received posters as part of the 1960 program. This highway evangelism is made possible through the generous contributions of local

poster plant owners who are members of the Outdoor Advertising Association of America, Inc. Thanks is due, too, to each Christian Endeavorer who assisted. These "silent messengers" tell the Christian Endeavor story to millions—thanks to you!

Alabama

Alabama Outdoor Advertising Company, Birmingham

California

Er & Kleiser Company, Bakersfield
Smith Company, El Centro
Er & Kleiser Company, Stockton

Colorado

General Outdoor Advertising Company, Inc., Denver

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General Outdoor Advertising Company, Chicago
General Outdoor Advertising Company, Harvey
ria Christian Center, Peoria
ley and Sons, Springfield
ehan Sign Company, Springfield
raths Outdoor Signs, Springfild

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Brinkman Corporation, Fort Wayne
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asier Poster Advertising Company, Milan

Kentucky

slow's Standard Service, Glasgow
neral Outdoor Advertising Company, Louisville
nell Poster Advertising Company, Maysville
ig Poster Advertising Company, Mt. Vernon
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neral Outdoor Advertising Company, College City
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Michigan

ayton Advertising Company, Adrian
ayton and Company, Battle Creek
lumet-Laurium Advertising Company, Calumet
uth Champion Advertising Company, Cass City
erchants Advertising Service, Coldwater
alker and Company, Detroit
ay Hunt Agency, Fenton
alker & Company, Flint
Sable Advertising Company, Gaylord
le Outdoor Advertising Company, Gladstone
alker & Company, Grand Rapids
oughton County Advertising Agency, Hancock
aasen Advertising Service, Holland
andenberg Advertising Company, Inc., Holland
le Outdoor Advertising Company, Iron Mountain
on County Advertising Agency, Iron River
orthern Advertising Company, Ironwood
entral Advertising Company, Jackson
alker & Company, Jackson
ulholland Outdoor Advertising Company, Kalamazoo
entral Advertising Company, Lansing
uality Advertising Company, Lansing
alker & Company, Lincoln Park
ason Poster Advertising Company, Menominee
eter P. Steketee & Son, Muskegon

Walker & Company, Muskegon
Niles Advertising Company, Niles
Walker & Company, Pontiac
Rich Poster Advertising Company, Port Huron
The Jordan Company, Sault Ste. Marie
Hartman Poster Advertising, Stanton
I. H. England Company, Traverse City

Minnesota

Paul Bunyan Sign Company, Brainerd
General Outdoor Advertising Company, Inc., Duluth
General Outdoor Advertising Company, Inc., Eveleth
Central Display Company, Glencoe
General Outdoor Advertising Company, Minneapolis

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J. C. Williams Company, Asbury Park
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O'Mealia Outdoor Advertising Corporation, Jersey City
American Advertising Company, Long Branch
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O'Mealia Outdoor Advertising Company, Paterson
The R. C. Maxwell Company, Trenton

New York

Fitch Advertising Company, Albany
Eagle Advertising, Inc., Amsterdam
Whitmier & Ferris Company, Buffalo
Fulton County Poster Advertising Company, Gloversville
Ulster Advertising Company, Inc., Kingston
Disoway & Fisher, Long Island City
General Outdoor Advertising Company, New York
The Troy Whitmire & Ferris Corporation, North Troy
Poughkeepsie Advertising Company, Poughkeepsie
Rochester Poster Advertising Company, Rochester
Saugerties Poster Advertising Company, Saugerties
Schenectady Outdoor Advertising Company, Schenectady
Richmond Poster Advertising Company, Inc., Staten Island
Richards Advertising Company, Inc., Syracuse
General Outdoor Advertising Company, Inc., White Plains
Yonkers Outdoor Advertising Company, Inc., Yonkers

North Carolina

Piedmont Outdoor Advertising Company, Greensboro
General Outdoor Advertising Company, Winston-Salem

Ohio

Stark Outdoor Advertising Company, Canton
The Packer Corporation, Cincinnati
The Packer Corporation, Cleveland
Columbus Outdoor Advertising Company, Columbus
Tuscora Poster Advertising Company, Dover
Ceramic Poster Advertising Company, East Liverpool

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E. A. Eckert Advertising Company, Mansfield
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E. L. Hemmert Outdoor Advertising Company, Piqua
Owens Outdoor Advertising Company, Van Wert

Ontario

E. L. Ruddy Company, Ltd., Hamilton
Gould-Leslie, Ltd., Kitchener
C. E. Marley, Ltd., London
Rutherfords, Ltd., Owen Sound
Gould-Leslie, Ltd., St. Catharines
C. E. Marley, Ltd., Sarnia
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Oregon

Foster and Kleiser Company, Portland

Pennsylvania

Lehigh Advertising Company, Allentown
Wright Poster Company, Brownsville
Butler Poster Advertising Company, Butler
Adams Advertising Company, Carlisle
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Hen Johnston Advertising Company, Pottsville
Donnelly Advertising Corporation, Scranton
Hen Johnston, Inc., West Reading
Penn York Advertising Company, York

Texas

Tribble Advertising Company, Corpus Christi
Middleton, Inc., Dallas
Houston Poster Advertising Company, Houston

Virginia

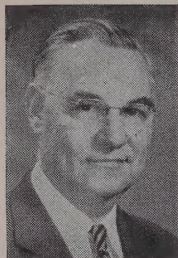
Peterson Advertising Company, Petersburg
General Outdoor Advertising Company, Inc., Richmond
General Outdoor Advertising Company, Roanoke

West Virginia

Smoot Advertising Company, Huntington
Ohio Valley Advertising Corporation, Wheeling

Wisconsin

Green Bay Poster Company, Green Bay
Tri-City Posting Service, Inc., Janesville
Naegel Outdoor Advertising Company, Inc., Madison
Les Bishop, Monroe
Leason Poster Advertising Company, Marinette
Racine Poster Advertising Company, Racine
Wisconsin Outdoor Displays, Inc., Wausau
Harrison Vande Berg, Waupun
Tri-City Posting Service, Inc., Wisconsin Rapids



Keynote Message

Dr. Clyde W. Meadows

Chambersburg
Pennsylvania

*President
International Society
of Christian Endeavor*

Wednesday Night

Dr. Daniel A. Poling

New York City

*President
World's Christian
Endeavor Union*



Thursday Night

Myron J. Taylor

Toledo, Ohio

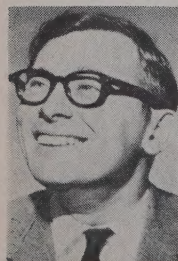
*Minister
Boulevard Church
of Christ*

Friday Night

Dr. Billy Graham

Montreat
North Carolina

Evangelist



Saturday Night

Dr. George K. Schweitzer

Knoxville, Tennessee

*Associate Professor
of Chemistry
Univ. of Tennessee*

Come to Convention

July 4 many Christian Endeavorers from all over North America will be heading to Chicago, Illinois. The reason—the 46th International Christian Endeavor Convention, to be held in the Windy City July 5-8!

The first convention activity will be a prayer vigil at 7:30 P.M. on July 4, followed by the prayer service, led by Dr. Earle W. Gates of Derby, New York, at 8:45.

The opening session and communion service is scheduled for 8:30 A.M. on Wednesday, July 5. Speaker will be Dr. Clyde W. Meadows. Educational conferences follow from 9:45 to 11:30 A.M. The general assembly period at the lunch tables will be directed by Arch J. McQuilkin of Strafford, Pennsylvania.

Evening speakers for the general convention sessions each night at 7:30 include Dr. Daniel A. Poling on Wednesday, Myron J. Taylor on Thursday, Dr. Billy Graham on Friday, and Dr. George K. Schweitzer at the closing session Saturday night.

The daily schedule Thursday through Saturday begins with graded Quiet Hour and Bible Study periods at 8:30, followed by the educational conferences. Quiet Hour leaders include: Junior High—Dr. Jacob Prins, Forest Grove Reformed Church, Hudsonville, Michigan; Senior High—Young People—Dr. Earle W. Gates, immediate past president of the International Society and chairman of the Chicago Program Committee; Adult—Rev. Theodore Richardson, Metropolitan Community Church, Chicago, Illinois.

Afternoon activities include meetings of the Corporation and Board of Trustees of the International Society on Thursday and state and provincial union meetings on Friday, when the annual conventions of the Illinois, Indiana, Michigan, and Ohio Unions

are scheduled. Saturday at 3:00 P.M. the Christian Witness Parade.

The special day for Juniors is also a day, with a convention just for the group from 9:45 A.M. to 1:30 P.M.

Each morning at 9:45 the Youth Assembly, a delegated body, meets, plus a session on Wednesday afternoon.

Dr. Daniel A. Poling will speak Faculty Dinner and Orientation which for 5:15 P.M. on Tuesday.

Convention music will be directed by Dean S. Jacoby, minister of First Church, Crown Point, Indiana, with Stephen, a student at Ohio State University in Columbus, at the organ.

All convention sessions will be held in the fabulous Conrad Hilton, in the heart of Chicago, one of the world's largest and completely air conditioned.

The economical "package plan" rates delegates five nights' lodging, Thursday through Saturday (dormitory style, five to a room), and all meals Wednesday through Saturday, at the very special rate of \$36.75. For double or twin room rate is \$53 per person; single occupancy rate is \$58.

Registrars have been appointed by state and provincial unions and convention promotion is under way. Monthly dues of cash and free subscriptions are available to unions in the International Society of Christian Endeavor contest. Final awards include cash prizes to the top five unions, plus parade floats and choice convention seats. Representatives of the two top unions will receive a allowance toward convention expenses.

All registered delegates will receive complete convention information as it becomes available. Registration fee is just \$4.00. The handy form below.

USE THIS REGISTRATION BLANK

INTERNATIONAL SOCIETY OF CHRISTIAN ENDEAVOR

1221 East Broad Street
Columbus 16, Ohio

(Please print or type)

Please register me for Chicago 1961. I enclose \$4 (after June 30, 1961, fee is \$5).

Rev., Mr., Mrs., Miss _____

(Circle proper title)

Street & No. _____

City _____

Zone _____

State _____

Church _____

(Give full name and denomination)

I am a member of the _____

Christian Endeavor Society or Youth Fellowship.

Local Union _____

State Union _____

My present responsibility in Christian Endeavor is _____

Age (if under 25) _____ Over 25, check here ☐

With Adults in Christian Endeavor

A page especially for Young Adults (25-35) and Adults (36-up)

BIBLIOGRAPHY

By Delno W. Brown. This supplements the materials listed in the January 1961 issue of THE CHRISTIAN ENDEAVOR WORLD.

Citizenship

Christianizing Community Life, Clarence Krumbholz, United Lutheran Publication House, 75c

The Protestant and Politics, William Miller, United Presbyterian Church, U.S.A., 00

The Christian as Citizen, John C. Bent, Association Press, \$1.25

Christian Citizenship, J. M. Weidenschilg, Concordia Publishing House, \$1.00

The New Testament, the Christian and the State, Archie Penner, Herald Press, \$2.50

Mixing Religion and Politics, William Miller, Reflection Book, Association Press, 50c

World Crisis and American Responsibility, Arnold Neibuhr, Reflection Book, Association Press, 50c

The Bible and Our Social Relationship, Arnold L. Lunker, Christian Board of Publication, 75c

Christian, What about Society, Herman Miller, United Lutheran Publication House, 75c

Christian Action in Economic Life, Harold C. Litts, United Lutheran Publication House, 75c

Labor

God and the Day's Work, Robert L. Calman, Association Press, 50c

Christian Faith and My Job, Alexander Miller, Reflection Book, Association Press, 75c

Christ and Your Job, Alfred P. Klausler, Concordia Publishing House, \$1.50

Following Christ in Our Work, J. Lawrence Burkholder, Herald Press, \$1.25

Labor, Industry, and the Church, John Daniel, Concordia Publishing House, \$3.00

Your Faith and Your Life Work, Million, Friendship Press, \$1.00

Science

Christianity and Science, Charles Raven, Association Press, \$1.25

The Bible and Modern Science, Henry M. Morris, Moody Press, 39c

Science Speaks, Peter W. Stoner, Moody Press, 39c

Evolution! Fact or Theory?, Cora E. Reno, Moody, 39c

An Introduction to Bible Archaeology, Howard F. Vos, Moody, 39c

Adults in the Church

Understanding Ourselves as Adults, Maves, Christian Board of Publication, \$2.00

Adults Learn and Like It, Christian Board of Publication, \$1.00

Learning Together in the Christian Fellowship, Sara Little, Presbyterian Church, U. S., \$1.25

How to Speak and Pray in Public, J. Vernon Jacobs, Standard Publishing, \$1.10

This Way to Happiness, Clyde M. Narramore, Moody, cloth \$2.95, paper \$1.95

The Creative Years, Reuel Howe, Seabury Press, \$3.50

A Philosophy of Adult Christian Education, David J. Ernsberger, Westminster Press, \$3.75

How Adults Learn, J. R. Kidd, Association Press, \$4.75

Family

Your Home Can Be Christian, Christian Board of Publication, \$2.00

Being Christian at Home, United Lutheran Publication House, 75c

How to Tell Your Children about Sex, Clyde M. Narramore, Moody, cloth \$2.00, paper \$1.50

Making the Home Happy, R. T. Cross, Moody, 39c

An Introduction to Child Study, Clarence H. Benson, Moody, \$3.50

Stewardship

Your Family and Christian Stewardship, Florence M. Sly, Christian Board of Publication, 75c

Adventures in Christian Stewardship, R. C. Rein, Concordia Publishing House, \$1.10

Stewardship in the New Testament Church, Holmes Rolston, American Baptist Board of Education and Publication, \$1.00

Stewardship in the Bible, Orval D. Peterson, Christian Board of Publication, 75c

First Fruits: God's Guide for Giving, Remus C. Rein, Concordia Publishing House, \$1.00

The Challenge of Christian Stewardship, Milo Kauffmann, Herald Press, \$2.50

ADULT TOPIC SUMMARIES

Prepared by the Adult Work Committee:
Earle W. Gates, Phyllis G. Brown, Jay Sheffield.

Facing Death

(The first topic in this series was carried the last issue.)

To Die Is Gain

Philippians 1:21-30; John 14:16-20

Why can the Christian face death with assurance and anticipation? How can the Christian help a person having terminal illness? Give depth study to a number of selected Scriptural passages pertaining to death and the kind of life that will make death a reward. Strive to learn the meaning of Paul's triumphant words "to die is gain." How is this possible? What is the meaning of Jesus' words "Because I live, ye shall live also"? Ask two or three members of your group beforehand to be prepared to contrast life on earth and life in heaven. What effect could the anticipation of heaven have on one's goals and activities? How should it make daily life different for the Christian?

Law Observance

Workers with God

Romans 12:9-21; 13:1-7

Of all who undertake the service of their fellow men, the Christian has the foundation for the farthest outreach and the most constructive program. Romans 12 begins with the admonition that the Christian must present himself a living sacrifice to God and thereby assume the will of God for his life.

As the very heart of the chapter comes the pronouncement on love which is the motivating factor in every relationship of the Christian, even law observance. Ask a local civil officer to be guest speaker and to discuss ways in which Christians may help all to realize that "the powers that be are ordained of God" and that all men may work together to the glory of God.

2. Ambassadors for Christ

II Corinthians 5:18-21

An ambassador is an envoy or representative with full power to act for his government at a foreign court. Some persons may be representatives without portfolio. This was true of the apostles. They spoke with full authority of heaven, for they were filled with the Holy Spirit as they gave God's final revelation to men concerning the principles of His kingdom on earth. Today, Christians are guided by the Word of God which they conveyed. After having heard a civil officer discuss how Christians may work with law authorities for the betterment of mankind through law observance, have a panel discussion concerning how Christians may testify to their faith by being law-abiding citizens.

3. "We Ought to Obey God"

Daniel 3:8-30; Acts 5:26-32

Like Daniel, Peter and the apostles were not self-seeking men who were possessed

with their own importance. They were self-effacing, devoted men of such conviction that they were ready to die, if necessary, for their Lord. The principles which undergirded their lives were dearer than life on this earth. Preceding the meeting assign these questions to three individuals for discussion: (1) "What responsibilities result from our freedom in Christ?" (2) "Can we, to any extent, compromise our convictions?" (3) "What should be a Christian's reaction to a law that interferes with his loyalty to Christ?" Appoint a moderator and hold an open discussion after the individual presentations.

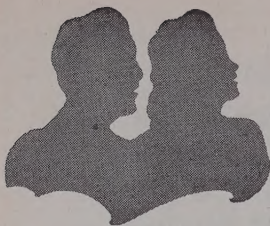
Standards of Conduct

1. Our Chief Duty

Deuteronomy 6:1-9; Mark 13:28-34

Stress the fact that the chief duty of man is to love the Lord with all his heart, soul, mind, and strength. Suggest ways in which we may obey this supreme commandment. Recall ways in which Hebrew families kept this commandment. Outline ways in which we may teach our children to fulfill this chief duty. Collect suggestions from a number of Christian home magazines that will help in efforts to establish and maintain Christian homes. Close the meeting with a service consecrating your homes to Christ.

(The second and third topics in this series will be carried in the next issue.)



The Crowning Fact

I Corinthians 15:50-58

(Easter)

Senior High-Young People (15-24 Years)

APRIL

Comments by Dr. Bastian Kruthof*

For the Leader

Ask capable youth to prepare talks based on the topic comments. Make assignments a week before the meeting. Be sure to sing hymns setting forth the resurrection. Perhaps some sacred music on high fidelity would be appreciated. Colorful pictures would also add to the setting.

Suggested Program Outline

Pre-Prayer Service
Hymn: *He Lives*
Scripture: I Corinthians 15:50-58
Sentence Prayers
Hymn: *One Day*
Announcements
Offering
Prayer
Hymn: *Stand Up for Jesus*
Leader's Talk
Discussion of Topic
Closing Hymn: *O Worship the King*
Benediction

The Center of the Gospel

The four Gospels tell of a risen Saviour and Lord. Thomas Jefferson, in his version of them, stops at the burial of Jesus Christ. Like many others who followed the way of the rationalists, he could not accept the fact of one's rising from the dead. Throughout the centuries there have been many people who balked at miracles and found it impossible to believe in the supreme miracle of Christ's victory over the grave by a physical resurrection.

Yet the Gospels and the first chapter of Acts and I Corinthians tell us plainly that Jesus not only rose from the dead, but also appeared a number of times to some of His followers. He appeared to Mary Magdalene, to the other women, to the apostles without Thomas, to the apostles with Thomas, to Peter, to James, to the 500, to the disciples while fishing, to them just before the ascension, and even to Paul on the road to Damascus.

Some very foolish things have been said and written to take away the miracle. Some say that the disciples and the women went to the wrong tomb. Others say that the body was removed. If this were so, Christianity would be founded on a mistake or a hoax. The early Christians were convinced that their Lord had returned to manifest Himself, and they were witnesses to the fact. That was one of the marks of apostleship. Think of Thomas doubting because he was not with his brethren at that first meeting. When Jesus came a week later, Thomas could see and feel, if he cared to, the wounds in Jesus' hands and side. But he never bothered to do this. All he said was, "My Lord and my God."

There are those who refuse to believe in the physical resurrection of Jesus Christ and

who explain the resurrection in a spiritual sense. That is, they think Jesus is with us in spirit all the time. But that is not what the Scripture says. As it is expressed in the Apostles' Creed we hold that "on the third day He rose again from the dead."

Paul's Teaching

Paul was convinced that Jesus had actually risen from the dead and that He had appeared to a number of people. In the first part of I Corinthians 15 he mentions some of these appearances. Moreover, he says that if Jesus did not rise from the dead, we are most miserable in our hopelessness. Jesus did rise from the dead and has become the first fruits of them that sleep. That is, just as the first fruits promise more harvest, so also Jesus' resurrection promises our resurrection. For Paul the victory of our Lord over death and the grave is a crowning event.

The apostle knew that he was talking about a mystery, that is, something that cannot easily be understood with our finite minds. When he talked to the Greek philosophers at Athens, they smiled when he spoke of the resurrection of Jesus. To the Greek that was nonsense. Bodies simply do not rise out of the grave. But Paul was sincere and serious. He believed; he knew.

In the topic Scripture reference, Paul states that flesh and blood cannot inherit the spiritual kingdom of God. That is why he speaks of a spiritual body. That sounds like a contradiction in terms, but it is not. Our mortal bodies return to the dust. But the resurrection makes possible a body not limited to time and space, a body such as Jesus had when He made those appearances to his followers. He could come into a room without using doors. He could appear and disappear. Yet He had a body, for He showed His wounds and asked for food.

Body and Soul

The Christian doctrine of the resurrection is a vast improvement on the pagan teaching about immortality. Ancient people believed in some form of life after death. The spirits of the departed went to the underworld into some shady kind of existence, but there was little happiness about it. Achilles said that he would rather be a slave on earth than a king in Hades.

Plato perhaps had the highest conception of life after death before the Christian era. Socrates was sentenced to death, but he was not afraid to die. He talked about the life hereafter and the joy that was ahead. His friends could have his body, but his soul would go to the gods. But even the highest conception among the pagans lacked much. The Greeks thought the body was the prison house of the soul. At death the soul escaped like a bird from its cage. Then it was free. The pagan mind could not grasp the resurrection of the body.

But Christianity teaches that not only the soul, but also the body shall live again.

There is here a great respect for and for the body. God created body and soul even as He created the universe. has no objection to matter. He must pay for it, for He made so much of it. Since He has done a great deal of harm to the world by creating it, He must die. But He will have the victory by raising the body from the dead.

We are ourselves because of our bodies. That is how we recognize one another. Soul and body make up the whole of us. The resurrection assures us that we shall become our true selves fully when death has been conquered. That is our hope and our conviction. We shall not be disembodied spirits floating around in the air, but we shall be ourselves forever in a perfect environment. That is why Paul sings so triumphantly: "O death, where is thy sting? O grave, where is thy victory?"

The Re-Created Environment

We Christians believe that we shall live again from the dead. We also believe that God is going to give us a new heaven and a new earth. In other words, matter will all be saved and changed. We shall dwell not only in heaven, but also on the earth. Perhaps we shall inhabit the whole universe. In that case we do in an age of space travel, we understand this somewhat. Why should we not enjoy the entire universe that God has made?

The book of Revelation tells us in the language of the new heaven and the new earth and of the city of God, the new Jerusalem. When the city of man has disappeared, the true city will remain for those who are the redeemed. What a prospect!

The Great Decision

All those who believe in the Lord Jesus Christ will enjoy eternal life in the new created environment. Those who do not believe will not share in that inheritance.

There are many people who just refuse to surrender and believe. A famous novelist, 82 years old, recently said that he is a realist. As such he does not believe in life hereafter. Moreover, he said that he would be bored in an eternal paradise. He was pressing what many feel. Some people simply do not have the Christian faith. They refuse to accept what their minds cannot grasp. Someone has stated coarsely,

Don't bother me now, don't bother me never;

I want to be dead forever and ever.

Such people need a spiritual resurrection before they can believe the resurrection of the body. Such people can see little significance in Easter, for they do not know the Saviour.

Do you know him and love him? Do you believe what He says? Are you looking forward to the inheritance that He has prepared for all those who trust in him? *That is the crowning fact.* On that basis life is much worth living. He lives, and because He lives, we too shall live!

*Dr. Kruthof is associate professor of religion and Bible at Hope College, Holland, Michigan.

"He Rose Again the Third Day"

No. 4 in a Series: "The Bible Testifies of Christ"

I Corinthians 15:3-8,13-23
(Easter)



Senior High (12-14 Years)

APRIL 2

Comments by Mrs. Aldis L. Webb*

Planning the Meeting

Use extra care to make this a very special evening. Decorate the room with flowers and greenery. Make programs in the shape of crosses or Easter lilies, and you might arrange the chairs in the shape of a cross. Ask those who give the Bible stories to prepare carefully. It would be fine if these passages were memorized. Arrange the music and all other parts of the program well in advance. If feasible, you might have a late afternoon vesper service instead of meeting at the regular time. Pray that members who have not done so will make their decision to accept Christ at this Easter season.

Suggested Program Outline

Prayer Service
Singing of Easter Hymns
All to Worship: I Corinthians 15:55-58
Leader's Talk and Opening Prayer
Hymn: *Christ Arose*
The Resurrection Story (by four different people)
According to Matthew (Matthew 28:1-10)
According to Mark (Mark 16:1-8)
According to Luke (Luke 24:1-12)
According to John (John 20:1-18)
Hymn: *He Lives*
Picture Interpretation or Object Talk
Group Participation and Discussion
Consecration Roll Call (What the Resurrection Means to Me)
Scripture: I Corinthians 15:3-8,13-23
Hymn: *When the Roll Is Called Up Yonder*
Sentence Prayers and Benediction

Leader's Introduction

This is the last of a series of four topics in "The Bible Testifies of Christ." We have learned from our study that Jesus was the living Son of the Living God, that He became man so He was *human* as well as *divine*, and that He died on Calvary in order that we might be forgiven of our sins. Tonight our topic is about our *living* Lord. We shall review the details of that first morning of the resurrection, discuss what it meant to the people at that time, what it means to us today, and how it should affect our lives. Let us bow our heads in gratitude and thank God that Christ has risen from the tomb and achieved eternal life for us.

Picture Interpretation:

The Walk to Emmaus

(Picture may be secured at most public libraries, but talk may be given without picture, if it is impossible to get one.) Study the picture carefully, asking yourself such questions as the following: Why did the men fail to recognize Jesus? Why were

QUESTIONS FOR DISCUSSION

1. Why do we worship on Sunday instead of Saturday?
2. What effect does the fact that we live forever and not just for a short time have upon our lives?
3. If the life of Jesus had ended at the cross, what would have been the effect upon our religion?
4. What evidences do we have in the world that Christ lives today?

they not expecting to see Him? Why are we not always conscious of His presence when He is really always very near? Do we have as much excuse today for our failure to recognize Him as those men of old? What message did the artist wish us to get from this picture? What do the expressions on the faces of the men tell us?

Now write out the interpretation of the picture in your own words, giving what you believe to be its message.

Someone has said that if he had to give up the entire Bible with the exception of one page, he would keep the page containing the story of the walk to Emmaus. Why do you think he considered this story so important?

Object Lesson

(Have on table a bulb and a blooming Easter lily or narcissus plant.) How lovely it is that Easter comes in the spring! Everything is awaking! Everyone is joyous! During the winter the flowers have all been asleep in the earth. This lily, which is now blooming, was asleep in the earth all winter. It was not dead. Its life was tied up in the bulb and hidden in the ground. But when spring came that life woke up, and the flower came into bloom.

Neither did Christ die when He was crucified and buried in the tomb. It was on an Easter morning long ago that men first realized that Christ had risen and that He was with them. He still lives in the hearts of all who love Him.

Neither do we die. As the dry bulb was planted and blossomed into a beautiful lily, so our earthly bodies will bloom in heaven. That is the resurrection of which Paul speaks in I Corinthians 15:50-58 (read reference). Our lives should share with others this wonderful news of life beyond the grave.

Group Participation

Try to imagine yourself as living during Christ's earthly ministry, as being one of His disciples during those three glorious years. You have given up your job, family, friends, and home to follow Him. Your family and friends may have told you how foolish you are! Yet you were drawn to Him because of His great love and understanding, and you have hoped for a place of importance in His new kingdom. Now it is all over, for they have crucified Him, and His body has been buried.

Do you wonder that the group met together to discuss the meaning of it all? Could it be possible that He claimed too much for Himself, after all?

God has planted in the soul of every human being the belief that there is a future life, but Christianity is the only religion which gives a sure hope of eternal life. What obligation does this give us to share this message with all men everywhere?

Read Matthew 16:25-27. Jesus asked, "What shall a man give in exchange for his soul?" He implies that the soul is worth more than anything else. No one can destroy it, but anyone can ruin it.

No one can prevent himself from living forever, but any one can change his unending life from an eternity of joy to an eternity of misery.

What are some of the things which young people today are exchanging for their souls? Even young people in the church?

Read Matthew 19:16-22. The life of the rich young ruler was poor and empty, although he had wealth and position, because he had not learned the proper sense of values. Jesus taught that if we would have treasures in heaven tomorrow, we must lay up those treasures today. The rich young ruler could not see that far ahead. He preferred to have his treasures upon the earth.

What are some definite ways in which we may lay up treasures in heaven? In what way do the things we value most show how firmly we believe that Jesus lives today?

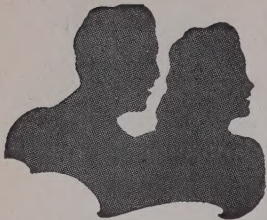
Men used to argue about whether an airplane could fly across the ocean. They used mathematics, physics, chemistry, and philosophy to try to solve the problem, but Charles Lindbergh gave the answer. The question will never need be argued again. When Christ arose from the grave, He gave proof that life is unending. All of the arguments of history could not equal the demonstration of that first Easter morning. We know that because He lives, we shall live also, even as He said.

Read Galatians 2:20. One of the greatest miracles is the change which takes place in a life which is absolutely surrendered to Christ. That change takes place because Christ lives within. What are some of the changes when a person becomes a Christian?

Read Philippians 4:13. A modern writer has written a book on the life of Christ, called *The Transforming Friendship*. To him, Christ is his greatest Friend, a helpful, transforming Friend. To Paul, Christ meant inward strength. What does He mean to you?

Read Romans 12:1,2. Christ gave Himself a sacrifice on the cross for you and for me—He died for us. It is too much to ask that we present our bodies as *living* sacrifices? What does it mean to be a living sacrifice?

*Mrs. Webb, the wife of a retired Christian Church minister, teaches in a Christian day school in California.



Go On to Perfection

Hebrews 6:1-3; James 1:2-4

Senior High-Young People (15-24 Years)

APRIL

Comments by Dr. M. Eugene Osterhaven*

For the Leader

One of the greatest practical needs in the church today is the quest for holiness. All church members have some interest in the Gospel, but not all seek perfection. Yet, the Bible says that without holiness no man shall see the Lord, and it urges Christians on to perfection. The present topic is an opportunity to set before your society the goal which God gives His people. If it is presented well, it will help all to go on to perfection.

Suggested Program Outline

Pre-Prayer Service
Call to Worship: Psalm 24:1-6
Hymn: *O God, Our Help in Ages Past*
Invocation and Lord's Prayer
Scripture: Hebrews 6:1-3; James 1:2-4
Hymn: *Near to the Heart of God*
Sentence Prayers
Announcements and Offering
Special Music
Leader's Talk
Discussion of Topic
Hymn: *Living for Jesus*
Benediction

A Lesson from the Life of St. Paul

The apostle Paul was one of the leading Christians of all time. God had given him such spiritual capacity that he could say, "I am crucified with Christ; nevertheless I live; yet not I, but Christ liveth in me." The reading of his life or his letters may make him seem far beyond us spiritually.

It is comforting to learn, however, that Paul considered himself one of us and that he had to struggle against sin and for perfection just as we must. To the Philippians he said that he counted himself not to have apprehended, but that he would do one thing—"forgetting those things which are behind, and reaching forth unto those things which are before." Thus he pressed toward the mark of perfection (Philippians 3:13, 14).

The Christian's Objective

The Christian's objective is perfection. As that was the mark towards which Paul directed his life, it must be that of every follower of Christ. We must seek to be "perfect, even as your father which is in heaven is perfect" (Matthew 5:48).

Once the Christian acknowledges Christ as Lord, his aim can be no less than that. That is why he has been made a Christian. It was God's purpose that man should live before him perfectly. That is the way God made him. But man allowed sin to rob him of holiness and perfection. Yet without these qualities we can never see God, and so He sent His Son to redeem man from sin. Through Him we now receive salvation and righteousness. Christ came into the world

AIMS

1. To realize that perfection is the goal of the Christian life.
2. To evaluate one's life in regard to this goal.
3. To learn how to make progress toward perfection.

that His people may become perfect and that He may present them to God "a glorious church, not having spot, or wrinkle, or any such thing; but that it should be holy and without blemish" (Ephesians 5:27).

An objective of this nature seems foolish to non-Christians. If they talk in terms of perfection, they mean something other than what Christians mean. They mean excelling in sports, business, or professional life, but not in the things of the Spirit. Since it is not natural, because of human sin, to strive toward perfection, the non-Christian sees no adequate reason for quenching those fires of doubt, jealousy, hatred, and uncleanness which spring up in his heart. But "the natural man receiveth not the things of the Spirit of God, for they are foolishness to him; neither can he know them because they are spiritually discerned" (I Corinthians 2:14). It is not "natural" for any person to desire perfection until the Holy Spirit has come into his life, but once this has happened his supreme objective must be to become like Jesus. Paul says, "If any man have not the Spirit of Christ, he is none of his" (Romans 8:9).

What Is Your Objective?

What is your greatest desire? What is the goal of your life? Is it a position of importance? Is it security? Is it power? A college student once said that he had quit his job and returned to college because he wanted a position of power eventually. If one does gain power, what then? If he does become wealthy, what does that avail him? The only value that is truly worthwhile in life is this which the Scripture sets before us. If a person does not seek perfection through Christ, he fails altogether whatever be his so-called success in life. Paul wrote to the Ephesians, "Till we all come in the unity of the faith, and of the knowledge of the Son of God, unto a perfect man, unto the measure of the stature of the fullness of Christ" (Ephesians 4:13). That was Paul's desire; what is yours? Does yours need to be higher?

Our Confession of Sin

The apostle Paul was superior to any of us in spiritual attainment. He was chosen by God to be the apostle to the Gentiles, all outside the Jewish race. In sufferings for Christ he was a martyr of the first degree; in his ministry he accomplished more than any other; in character he was as blameless as any has ever been. Dr. Farrar characterizes him as follows, "As energetic as Peter and contemplative as John; Paul, the hero of unselfishness; Paul, the mighty champion of spiritual freedom; Paul, a

greater preacher than Chrysostom, a greater missionary than Xavier, a greater reformer than Luther, a greater theologian than Thomas Aquinas; Paul, the inspired Apostle of the Gentiles, the slave of the Lord Christ." Yet the apostle confessed his shortcomings and imperfection over and over again.

How then can any Christian today consider himself to have attained the goal? Yet there are some who seem to think they are what they ought to be!

Mature Christians are not like that. They know their weaknesses, confess them, and ask the Lord for help. They know only by the help of His Spirit can they go on, and that only by the grace of Christ are they accepted by God. The more a Christian is to God the more acute sense of sin becomes in his life, but the self-satisfied churchgoer proclaims his righteousness like the Pharisee of old. His streams brawl and babble, but deep waters flow on in silence. Shallow Christians talk much about their spiritual attainment but mature believers glory only in Christ, their Lord.

On to Perfection

It is not sufficient that perfection be the goal and that he see himself as he is. He must press on toward his high call. There are persons with ambitions who do not realize them. Perhaps they are indolent or do not know how to reach the desired goal. This was not true of Paul. He knew what he would do, and his method is lined in Philippians 3:13,14. Christians will heed his words. He said, "This thing I do." He concentrated on what was important to him. He did not seek wealth and glory here and eternal life later. He lived for Jesus Christ, and to that single end of purpose he owed his spiritual strength and accomplishment.

Too many of us are Jacks of all trades and masters of none. It would be well if we would concentrate on a few things that we do well. Above all, we should have Christ foremost in life and let all else be secondary to Him and His cause. With such purposes shall we go "on to perfection."

Paul also said that he would forget past achievements and press toward his goal. This too is good advice. Often we will compliment ourselves on what we have accomplished. Paul might have done that; but instead he looked forward and went on to reach the goal which Christ had set. Paul had accomplished great things for Christ by the time he wrote this epistle, but he knew that to dwell on them would be fatal to his Christian usefulness and spiritual progress. So he put them behind him and went forward.

Therein lies the secret of our progress. Also. Like a runner in a race, we must concentrate on the goal and strive toward it. Once we stop pressing toward the mark our progress stops. If we run well, we shall be able to say with Paul that a crown of righteousness awaits us too (II Timothy

*Dr. Osterhaven is professor of systematic theology at Western Theological Seminary, Holland, Michigan.

God Proves His Faithfulness

No. 1 in a Series: "April Showers"

Genesis 6:5-8,14-22; 7:11-17; 8:15-20



APRIL 9

Senior High (12-14 Years)

Comments by Rev. Clive Cooper*

To review the faithfulness of God.
To learn how God protects His follow-

To realize that God's faithfulness is unchanging.

Advertising

Use some common slogan for advertising meeting during the spring. Easter is over, but several people have not yet attended church since the cold weather. Even if they came for Easter, they may go back into hibernation. They may turn to some other activity during the warmer months. Try these slogans. "Be a Christian, Come out of hibernation and attend Christian Endeavor." "Come to Christian Endeavor, Be in full bloom." "Showers of blessings are coming with the April show-ers." These are only suggestions. You may have a better one to fit your local situation.

Suggested Program Outline

Prayer Service
Musical Prelude: *My Faith Looks Up to Thee*
Hymn: *All to Worship*: First stanza of same hymn
Meditation (quiet time for thoughts about God's faithfulness)

Prayer
Hymn: *O God, Our Help in Ages Past*
Scripture: Genesis 6:5-8,14-22; 7:11-17; 8:15-20

Leader's Talk
Talks by Members
Questions for Discussion

Sponsor's Summary
Hymn: *Near to the Heart of God*
Announcements
Benediction

Leader's Talk

The leader should state that this is the first of four topics on Christian beliefs and attitudes. This topic concerns faithfulness and uses the story of Noah as an example of God's faithfulness. It should lead youth to realize that God is always faithful, even in our own time. He should introduce the several short talks to follow.

The Evil World

Evil in the world started with Adam and Eve in the Garden of Eden. From this beginning evil spread to all generations. By the time of Noah, evil had almost overcome all the good which God placed in the world. Man continued in disobedience to his creator. Genesis 6:5 (read it) points out the wickedness which reigned supreme in the world. God did not have the fellowship which He desired. His highest creation was not meeting the need for which he had been created. God could not show his faithfulness to a people who turned away from Him and did evil things.

Ar. Cooper, a General Baptist leader, is now living in Kansas City, Missouri.

QUESTIONS FOR DISCUSSION

1. Why did Noah receive protection from God?
2. What proofs are there in the story of Noah that God keeps His promises to both the righteous and the unrighteous?
3. How did Noah express his thanks for God's faithfulness to him?
4. How does God show constant faithfulness to us?
5. How may we express gratitude for God's faithfulness?
6. Why are mere words not sufficient to express gratitude to God?

Noah Finds Favor

The Bible records only one family who followed the path of righteousness. This was Noah, his wife, his three sons, and their wives. Because of the righteousness of Noah he found favor with God. Judgment must be pronounced upon the wicked world. Only the family of Noah would escape judgment. God spoke to Noah and told him to prepare an ark in order that he and his family might be saved.

Noah Is Spared

The ark was completed according to the instructions which God gave. Then God commanded that some of every living thing be taken onto the ark. Last, the righteous people, the family of Noah, went aboard. God sealed the opening, and Noah's family was ready for the judgment which God sent. All things of the earth perished except those on the ark. God spared Noah because of his righteousness. God was faithful to those who trusted and followed Him.

Noah Builds an Altar

Genesis 8:20 shows how Noah responded to the faithfulness of God. He was reverent in his attitude toward his divine protector. He built an altar after coming from the ark when the waters receded. On this altar Noah made a sacrifice which was pleasing to God. He offered clean beasts and clean fowl as a burnt offering to God.

Faithfulness toward Noah

God showed His faithfulness toward Noah because of Noah's righteousness. God was faithful in His promise to bless and to protect Noah. Noah had fulfilled the desires of God, and God supplied his needs. All other people had turned from their righteous ways. God had promised judgment upon evil, and He was also faithful to carry out judgment as well.

Faithfulness Is Unchanging

God has always been faithful. This is a part of His nature. He will carry out the promises which He has made. He will protect those who follow Him. He will bring judgment upon those who turn to wickedness. It is the same in all generations. It is the same today as it was in the time of Noah. Righteousness will be rewarded. Evil will be punished. We must make a decision for ourselves. Either we will live righteously and receive the pro-

tection of God, or we will live in wickedness and be in danger of judgment.

Promise of Faithfulness Today

Through the prophets God promised to be faithful to all coming generations. This includes the generation in which we live. He has promised good to those who follow Him. He has promised to protect all who believe and trust in Him. On the basis of the story of Noah we must accept this promise as truth. We must accept the faithfulness of God as a guide to our daily living. We must develop such Christian beliefs and attitudes ourselves. Our example is Jesus Christ. The world rejected Him, but He was faithful to His mission to die in behalf of all on Calvary.

Christ and Youth

God has been faithful to us. What have we done for Him? We accept His faithfulness when He accepts His Son as our Saviour. If we reject His Son we have rejected His faithfulness. Youth must think seriously about Christ. They should consider God's faithfulness to Noah. They should consider the obedience of Noah. They should consider the wickedness of those who were judged in the time of Noah. With these facts surely we can make only one sensible choice. We must accept the faithfulness of God. We must accept the Christ who died for our salvation. Those who do not know Christ as personal Saviour should seek out the minister or counselor and ask as did the Philippian jailer, "What must I do to be saved?" (Acts 16:30)

Christ and the Church

To accept Christ is to accept His church. God has been faithful to give us a place to worship in spirit and in truth. This place is His church. After we turn to Christ, the next step is to become a part of His working body, the church. This organ is the means by which we accomplish things for God. Christian service is the responsibility of each individual. No other person can do the job which belongs to us. Faithful participation in the work of the local church is the duty of each person who accepts Christ.

Faithful to Answer Prayer

Man's contact with God is through prayer and meditation. The psalmist realized this when he prayed in Psalm 143:1 (read this verse). He also knew about the faithfulness of God, and he expected an answer. In this generation, we too should turn to God in prayer. He will answer. He will lead and guide in all the good things of this life. Our failures in life cannot be excused. We have the faithfulness of God at our disposal. We have the power of heaven to help us in our trials. We have the living example of Christ as our guide. We have the freedom of expression in our daily lives. What more could we ask? God has proved His faithfulness. What will we do with all the opportunities which are ours?

On-the-Job Training

Acts 12:12,25; 13:4,5,13



Senior High-Young People (15-24 Years)

Comments by Mr. Elwood Dunn*

Promotion

Announce the meeting in all the usual ways. In addition, use posters that tell the story of the meeting. Head a poster *Improve your skills!* and show someone learning how to swim, golf, fish, or speak. Put on the date, time, place, and guest leaders. Or show a ghostly, shivering figure over the words *Is this you when you speak?* Begin to overcome your fears at Christian Endeavor meeting. Then give time, place, and other information.

Suggested Program Outline

Pre-Prayer Service

Prelude

Hymn: *Give of Your Best to the Master*

Prayer

Hymn: *I Would Be Like Jesus*

Scripture: Acts 12:12,25; 13:4,5,13 (Note that these are verses relating to the life of John Mark.)

Announcements and Offering

Hymn: *Saved to Tell Others*

Talks and Bible Readings

Closing Hymn

Benediction

The Leader Sets the Stage

Swimming looks easy. Everyone that has tried it knows that it is more difficult than it appears. How do you learn to swim? You might get all the books in the library about swimming and read all about the subject. It would be interesting to visit a pool or the beach and watch others swim. You could learn to identify the crawl, the side stroke, or the breast stroke. You could practice on the floor at home. None of these would enable you to swim. The only way to learn to swim is to get into the water and start paddling. Swimming is a skill, and all skills are acquired. You learn by doing. This is the philosophy of on-the-job training.

Carter Good in the *Dictionary of Education* defines on-the-job training as "supervision and other supplemental instruction furnished to the learner while he is employed as a beginner or trainee in the regular duties of a position or job for which wages are paid." Development of the Christian life is an on-the-job training experience. No one magically becomes a full-fledged Christian at the batting of an eye. Faith increases by usage. The prayer life of a follower of Christ grows as he practices the presence of Christ in his everyday life. A Christian grows by a long series of efforts using the Bible, church, prayer, the experiences of others, and many other helps and guides.

Our topic Scripture relates some events in the life of John Mark, who traveled with

PLANS FOR THE PROGRAM

Determine three or four weeks in advance how the meeting is to be conducted. Consider making the meeting a self-improvement clinic in public speaking and oral Bible reading. If you make this decision, here are some plans to follow:

1. At least a week before the meeting, ask each member to take part by speaking or reading.
2. Limit each talk and Bible reading to sixty seconds. If the group is small, let each one speak or read again. A large group might practice unison reading, giving attention to emphasis, interpretation, etc.
3. Have a timer to ring a bell or give another signal to each person at the end of sixty seconds.
4. Divide the available time between the speakers and the readers.
5. Ask a local speech instructor, your minister, your counselor, or another qualified adult to serve as speech and reading coach for the meeting. All suggestions should be made in a kindly way so as to help all to make improvement.

Paul and Barnabas, and also Peter, tradition says. He certainly had on-the-job experiences. As a youth he watched and heard these men, learning as he worked with them.

Now we are going to develop two skills that will make us more efficient in our service to Christ and the church—abilities to speak and to read orally. Each one will have an opportunity to participate through on-the-job training. (*Here the persons acting as coaches should be introduced.*)

Tips for Speakers

Here are three suggestions to help each speaker choose a subject. *First*, it should be a subject about which the speaker has some information. To a certain degree he is an authority on some subject. His authority may come from experience, observation, study, or investigation. *Second*, the speaker should have a real interest in the subject. This may grow out of his job, his avocation, or an assignment of the subject. *Third*, it should be a subject which the speaker would enjoy talking about. An individual may know about many subjects but not have a real desire to talk about all of them.

Here are some suggested subjects that might be used by members of the Christian Endeavor society in the meeting. They are subjects on which the speaker is the best authority.

1. The most impressive worship service I was ever in.
2. Gospel music that thrilled me.
3. The best sermon I ever heard.
4. The best party our Christian Endeavor society ever had.
5. The finest thing I experienced in the last Christian Endeavor convention or conference that I attended.
6. One of the times when God answered

my prayers.

7. A person I know who has real Christian faith.

8. A most inspiring Christian Endeavor meeting.

9. An invitation to the Christian Endeavor members to attend Sunday School.

10. An invitation to attend the next function of the Christian Endeavor society.

Organize Your Material

Every speech should have a skeleton. It should be so clear that the listener should be able to follow it. Here is a widely-used outline with four parts:

1. Ho hum
2. Why bring that up?
3. For instance
4. So what?

The "Ho hum" is a beginning that keeps the listener from saying to himself, "Ho hum, time to take a nap." The opening sentence arouses interest. "Why bring that up?" is the reason for the speech. It states the objective of the talk. "For instance" is the illustration, story, or example that points to the point. "So what?" is the action that the speaker wants the audience to take. The order of these four points will make the speech clear. In fact many times the best beginning is a story or example illustrating the point of the speech.

Improve Your Technique

Punch the important words in each sentence. Usually these are the words that denote the action wanted by the speaker and those who will perform the action.

Use pauses effectively. The pause is a device that brings back the attention of the audience and allows the speaker to prepare for his next sentence. Pauses are also used to emphasize an idea. This is done by pausing before and after the word that the speaker wants the audience to hear. The speaker should remember that the audience seems much longer to him than to the audience.

Tips for Readers

For oral reading, select Biblical passages that are familiar, such as the Sermon on the Mount, I Corinthians 13, Peter's sermon in Acts 2, etc. Good reading demands that the reader understand what he is reading and that he read so that all can hear. One should have to strain to hear the reading. Few things can demoralize an audience so quickly as an inability to hear.

Feeling should be expressed in the reader's voice and manner. The audience should be able to catch the emotions portrayed on the printed page. How does a forgiving father feel when he welcomes back a wandering son? This ought to be conveyed in the voice of the reader as he reads the parable of the prodigal son. The awe of Isaiah's vision should be felt when the reader says, "I saw the Lord." Following such techniques as these will make the message of the Scripture clear for the audience as it does for the reader.

*Mr. Dunn is general secretary of the Michigan Christian Endeavor Union and chairman of the Youth Work Committee of the International Society.

Does Our Faith Measure Up?

No. 2 in a Series: "April Showers"

I Kings 17:1-7; 18:41-46



Senior High (12-14 Years)

APRIL 16

Comments by Miss Mary Lou Funk*

Leader Idea

Draw or paste a picture of two young people talking together, with one of them saying, "Does our faith measure up?" Have them standing by an oversized yardstick. Include information about the time, place, and purpose of your meeting.

Leader Prepares

"Trusting in the Lord Jesus Christ for strength" and seeking His guidance in prayer. You will be able to lead this meeting. Prepare for yourself, your counselor, each member of your society, and each prospective member.

If all your members do not know the Christian Endeavor pledge for active members by heart, have a wall-size copy of it on display during the meeting. Have paper and pencils or a chalkboard and chalk available for use after the dramatization about Elijah.

One week in advance:

Announce that a quiz based on the daily Bible readings will be a part of the program. Urge each member to read them and be prepared to help his team win the quiz. Make certain that each member has a list of the readings. (If you plan to follow up the quiz by having the losing team treat the winners at your next social, mention that in your announcement.)

Tell each member about "Testimony Time" and ask him to be prepared to give at least one testimony.

Assign the dramatization parts to those who will do the pantomiming and the reading. Choose those who will practice beforehand.

For the Counselor

Be certain to have the rules for the quiz well in mind beforehand, and also the answers. You may wish to have another adult help you in determining whether to count an answer correct or not. The same person should also keep the scores.

If you do not have a supply of the Quiet Hour Enrollment Cards, write to the *International Society of Christian Endeavor*, 1221 East Broad Street, Columbus 16, Ohio.

Suggested Program Outline

Prayer Service
Relude

Songs: *Christ Is the Answer*
God's Way My Way
Jesus Never Fails
Sing and Smile and Pray
Christian Endeavor Pledge
Prayer

Quiz Time
When Elijah Trusted God

Testimony Time

Life Problems

Quiet Hour Dedication

Song: *Whisper a Prayer*
Benediction

*Miss Funk is associate editor of *United Brethren Publications*, Huntington, Indiana.

Quiz Time

Divide into two teams. With the counselor serving as the quiz master, the teams will take turns in answering the questions. For each question, each team will have two opportunities to give the correct answer. Any person on the team may answer, after he has raised his hand and the counselor has recognized him. The same person may use the two opportunities to give the correct answer, or two different ones on the same team.

Five points are given for each correct answer. For each incorrect answer two points are subtracted.

If one team fails to give the correct answer after two tries, or does not wish to use both tries or even one (fearing they will give a wrong answer), then the quiz master will address the other team with the same question.

1. What one word is found again and again in Hebrews 11?
2. In order to please God, what must we have?
3. In your own words, what is faith?
4. Why is it important to have faith?
5. What was the result of Noah's faith in God?
6. What about Abraham's trip indicates that he had great faith in God?
7. Why did it take great faith for Moses' parents to hide him?
8. When Moses was a young man he refused to be called the princess' son and chose to associate himself with God's people. How did this show his faith in God?
9. What does God mean when in His Word (James 1:6) He says, "ask in faith"?
10. In the Bible reading from the book of Daniel, what three persons had great faith? How did they show their faith and to whom? (All three parts of this must be answered correctly by one person in order to score 5 points.)
11. Give one way to increase your faith.
12. What is another way to help your faith to grow?
13. How can studying the Bible help to increase faith?
14. How can prayer help faith in God to grow?

When Elijah Trusted God

Dramatize the two parts of the story about Elijah that are in the daily Bible readings. While some are acting out the story in pantomime, the Scripture is read by a person who reads loudly, clearly, with good expression, and in time with the pantomime.

Tell the rest of your group that they should watch and listen for evidences of Elijah's great faith and of God's responses to his faith.

After the dramatization, either individually on paper or together on a chalkboard see how many things you can list which revealed Elijah's faith and how many things you can list which showed God's gracious response to Elijah's faith in Him.

Testimony Time

After a brief introduction and a testimony by the leader, ask each member to give at least one testimony. It may be any one of these three.

1. Something said or done this past week by you or someone else which demonstrated faith in God.

2. Something you said or heard this past week which revealed God's response to someone's faith.

3. Some problem, decision, work, etc. you intend to trust God about this week.

Life Problems

Have your entire group deal with each one of these, or if your group is large, divide into smaller groups and assign one problem to each group. After about five minutes, have one person from each group present its problem and solution.

1. A few weeks ago Jim became a Christian. Since then he has been a very happy person, even though his father is very ill and his family quite poor. A man who lives next door to them is not a Christian. He has asked Jim, "How can you be so cheerful when your dad's so sick and you hardly know where your next meal is coming from?" What would you answer this neighbor if you were Jim?

2. Ruth recently became a member of Christian Endeavor. Already she has memorized the Christian Endeavor pledge, and she is endeavoring to keep every part of it. She thinks often of the part of the pledge which promises "to give as I can for the spread of the Kingdom."

Her father and mother are not Christians, and they do not believe she needs to give money to the church. They have told her she can spend her allowance that way if she chooses, but they won't give her any extra. Since they expect her to buy things she needs with her allowance, including her school lunches, what do you think she should do?

3. Bill has been practicing baseball often, especially pitching. He hopes to be chosen as the pitcher for his team in the Pony League. He was a topnotch pitcher in the Little League, and so he stands a good chance.

Even though Bill wants to be pitcher for his team and will probably be chosen because of his good pitching record and ability, one thing troubles him a great deal. A fellow to whom he's been witnessing and who's going to be on a rival team has threatened to beat him up if he pitches. What should Bill do?

Quiet Hour Dedications

After reading James 5:17,18, your pastor or counselor will give opportunity for all active members to sign or to renew the Quiet Hour pledge. Following this, the pastor or counselor will offer a prayer that all may be faithful to Christ and the church.



The Divine Plumb Line

Amos 7:1-14

Senior High-Young People (15-24 Years)

APRIL

Comments by Rev. Raymond C. Steinhart*

To the Leader

To many people, Old Testament stories are not too exciting. They demand more time and study, but they are loaded with great truth and workable ideas. Your topic has its basis in the book of Amos. Yes, it is an Old Testament book, but it has a great message. You should know what is meant by a plumb line. It is a line with a plummet at the end of it, such as masons and bricklayers use in building a wall so that they may make it strong and true. Why not bring one along to the meeting and explain its use? Stress the truth that if we really want to keep our lives strong and true, then we must ever look to Jesus Christ, who is our divine plumb line.

Publicity

Why not express the idea of the topic by building a wall and having against the wall the plumb line? A novel approach would be to secure some red bricks, build a wall with brick, and put the plumb line on the top of the bricks. Have a poster card alongside indicating the time and place of the meeting. If you mail out letters, draw a plumb line across the letter and ask your society members to come "straight" to the meeting in a "true" spirit and at the meeting find "foundation material" for the "building" of a good life.

Suggested Worship Service

Pre-Prayer Service

Call to Worship: "O God, our help in ages past, Our hope for years to come, Our shelter from the stormy blast, And our eternal home!"

Hymn: *This Is My Father's World*

Scripture Reading: Amos 7:1-14

Sentence Prayers

Announcements and Offering

Leader's Talk

Talks by Three Speakers

Life Problem

Questions for Discussion

Hymn: *Are Ye Able, Said the Master*

Benediction

Preparation for the Leader

Make a study of the prophet Amos. Read Amos 1:1 and note what it includes of the personal history of the prophet.

For further background read II Kings 14:23-29. The reign of Jeroboam was especially noted for its prosperity. He enjoyed the longest reign of any of the kings of the ten tribes; his wars were successful; his kingdom was enlarged; and he had the further encouragement of seeing prophecy fulfilled in his day, as a further evidence of Jehovah's favor and willingness to bless His people. It was a golden age for Israel, but it was a time of great dissipation and marked the beginning of the rapid decline

QUESTIONS FOR DISCUSSION

1. How much attention should a Christian give to the evils in his community? Should Christian youth notice evils in school life?
2. Are there evils in the church which should be pointed out? What can Christian youth do about correcting evils which have become habitual in the church?
3. What would Amos cry out against if he were a present-day evangelist holding a meeting in our town or church?
4. What concept of the judgment of God do youth have today? Is it adequate?
5. A plumb line can also be used to measure the depth of water. What would it indicate if it were used to measure the spiritual depth of the average Christian life? How can a Christian increase his spiritual depth?
6. What opportunities are there for the Christian to measure his life by the plumb line of Christ? What functions of the church serve this purpose?

of the nation that culminated in its captivity by the Assyrians 60 or 70 years later.

Reading the book of Amos will reveal that Amos knew God as the omnipotent creator, the sovereign ruler of individuals and nations, whose power reaches everywhere and who knows the thoughts of all men. Amos was also a shrewd observer of the actions of others, and he was able to reflect upon what he saw in its relationship to God.

In your talk, point out the scene of Amos' prophecy. He was visiting Bethel at the time of the autumn festival. It was the place where the sanctuary of the kingdom of Israel was located, the religious center of the ten tribes. Here Amos would see the image of the sacred bull, with people worshipping God under it. The Israelites had taken over the modes of worship of the Canaanites. Just as the festival was at its height, with people making merry everywhere, the voice of the prophet was heard penetrating the sounds of revelry. He spoke as God's prophet, with God's message, and at God's appointed time.

Point out also what the prophet saw. Read Amos 7:7-9. Upon the basis of his vision, he told the people that Israel was like a wall, a strong wall that God Himself had built. The wall had been made by a plumb line, very exact and firm. He also reminded them that they had been granted many opportunities to repent of any wickedness which they had committed. Now, the prophet said, God was standing on the wall to consider what He would do with it. Again He would use the plumb line to discover where it was weak and where it had become crooked. In this way God would bring the people to trial. He would point out to them their wrongdoing. Amos predicted the utter ruin of the heathen sanctuary where the people worshiped. He also predicted that the house of Jeroboam would be destroyed. The time had come when

those whom God had spared so often would be spared no longer.

Point out the message of Amos for Christian youth. Amos had rich resources of devotion and courage. He dared to risk disapproval of the crowd in a time when to do so met cruel opposition and physical suffering. Is there something for Christian youth to learn?

Amos spoke out when he saw that what was being done. There is much evil in our day. Too many times Christians are silent and pass by on the other side. There are still those who flaunt God openly, oppress their fellow men as in the days of Amos. Such things are still contrary to the will of God. Who will speak out for God?

Amos was not too busy to accept the task that God gave him to do. He was busy when God called him, but yet he listened and did God's will anyway. Do Christian youth accept their responsibilities as followers of Christ? Do they give all that they have to the service of Christ? Do they do their best for Him?

First Speaker

Give examples of men and women in modern times and even your own community who have demonstrated Christian courage in combating wrong. For instance you might refer to Dwight L. Moody, of humble parents and with little formal education. Yet he heard God's call and came His prophet. He was a modern Amos as he conveyed God's message to men in sin. Perhaps other members of your society can add other examples to your list.

Second Speaker

List some opportunities which Christian youth have in your community to speak against evil and to advance the cause of Christ. You should also be able to give out instances in which youth have taken such a stand. Perhaps your Citizen's Committee, or another committee dealing with citizenship issues, will be able to provide information of this nature.

Third Speaker

Stress that even though Amos foretold the downfall of Israel, yet he also proclaimed the mercy of God. Refer for instance to Amos 5:14. God was always willing to forgive all who would repent and turn to Him. Discuss ways in which Christian youth can convey the mercy of God to the sinful world, help them to receive God's forgiveness. What is your group doing to lead unsaved young people to Christ?

Life Problem

Harold is a good moral youth. He has no need of coming to church and of being forgiven of sin. He thinks that he is as good as most church youth and that he has as much assurance of eternal life as they do. Why might he feel like this? Is there any justification for his attitude? What can the youth of the church do to help him?

*Mr. Steinhart is pastor of the First Evangelical Congregational Church, Easton, Pennsylvania.

With Jesus in the Storm

No. 3 in a Series: "April Showers"

Matthew 8:23-27



Senior High (12-14 Years)

APRIL 23

Comments by Dr. Raymond M. Veh^o

Aims

1. To understand how powerless we are without Christ.
2. To examine our own personal relationships with the Master.
3. To commit our lives to Christ and to receive new strength from Him.

Poster

On white cardboard mount the outline of a ship cut from blue construction paper. Put at bottom:

*Miracles Still Happen—
Hear about them in CE tonight... P.M.*

Worship Service

Ask a good reader to read Matthew 8:23-

Then lead the group in singing *Master, the Tempest Is Raging*.

As a special feature have a hidden quartet sing *Have Thine Own Way*. All lights could be turned out except a lighted cross at the front. As each verse is sung a girl in a long flowing robe might walk slowly toward the cross and kneel there facing it. When the last verse is finished everyone is asked to bow in quiet prayer and solemnly dedicate himself to Christ and His service.

Miracles Are Marvelous

As we study the Gospels we discover that not only did the Master perform miracles, but He encouraged His disciples to similar enterprises of faith, assuring them that in proportion to their faith the power of God could be expressed.

Miracles are, therefore, a fundamental part of the life and ministry of the Son of God. It would be strange if He did not work them.

But what is a miracle? It is not, as commonly supposed, a violation or contradiction of natural law. It may seem to be so, but that is due to our limited knowledge of nature. There must be workings in the universe that are beyond our present knowledge. A miracle is rather the working of a law that we have not observed.

God may work miracles by the selection and use of laws of which we know nothing and can know nothing and which we would not use if we did know them.

God, who possesses all knowledge, knows no miracle. Jesus did not display any surprise or astonishment at what we call miraculous powers. To Him they were natural events. If we really understood Jesus, we could not stagger at His mighty works. In fact we would expect wonderful things of Him.

The Miracle of Quieting the Sea

In the topic Scripture, we read of a great miracle. In the stilling of the storm we see God's power at work.

Jesus, fatigued with a most strenuous day

Dr. Veh is editor of BUILDERS, Evangelical United Brethren youth magazine.

QUESTIONS

1. What is a self-surrendered life?
2. How does one surrender himself to God?
3. Is such a life hard to live?
4. Should one surrender to God in order to receive a reward from God?
5. When duties of self and duties of God appear to be in conflict, which should the Christian choose?
6. For what larger things does the surrendered life free the soul?
7. What victories are won in the Christian life through surrender?
8. Why are commandments necessary for one who has surrendered his life to Christ?
9. How did Jesus summarize the commandments of God?
10. Where does the Christian receive strength to obey God's commandments?

in teaching and healing, fell asleep in the stern of the boat. A great storm arose. The apostles awakened Him, and He forthwith rebuked the wind with "Peace, be still." And there was a great calm. So today Jesus saves us "in" and not "from" the storms of life.

The Disciples Were Afraid

The disciples were powerless to meet the situation until they realized their hopeless condition. Then they came to Jesus and cried aloud, "Lord, save us: we perish."

Does not fear play a large part in the lives of many people? They live in constant fear of evils known and unknown. Many of the ills feared are purely imaginary and will never become real. They are bridges that will never need to be crossed, and yet how many days and hours are filled with unrest and distress seeking to build them.

On the other hand there are fears that have real basis. Sin and wrongdoing of any kind give rise to fears of detection or punishment or humiliation. "Guilt makes cowards of us all." Fear destroys peace of mind and restfulness of spirit and robs of courage and confidence. Many live in fear because of sin.

Power to Overcome Fear

Victory over fear comes through self-surrender to the will of God. Many youth are not enjoying victory in their Christian experience because they have been unwilling to present themselves a living sacrifice to God. They have not come to the place where they will say, "God's way is the only way." Only the life surrendered to the Lord Jesus Christ which seeks first His kingdom is the happy and victorious life. God will give the victory when we make the surrender. "Thanks be to God, which giveth us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ" (I Corinthians 15:57).

The fruit of the surrendered life is "love, joy, peace, long suffering, gentleness, goodness, faith, meekness, temperance; against

such there is no law" (Galatians 5:22,23). It is for each of us to make a complete surrender of our lives to God, so that we may enjoy victory in this world and eternal life in the world to come.

The Cost of Following Jesus

If we would be calm in these days of stress and strain, living the committed life, then we must be obedient to God's commands. Here are some of the costs of a life of obedience.

Obedience to God demands willingness to serve in all circumstances. That sort of dedication is expected of every Christian. Some people seem to have the idea that it is meant only for preachers and missionaries, but not so. If one would follow Jesus, then he must live righteously, serve unselfishly, and love God and man with all his heart.

Sometimes obedience seems a hard price to pay, especially when it cuts right across some pet desire of ours. It is, but it is worth all it costs. He who breaks God's law is like a man who buys a shoddy piece of goods just because it is cheap. It isn't long until he regrets it.

The story of "Knights of the Silver Shield" gives an example of devotion in service. In the story a young knight, ambitious to prove his valor and therefore anxious to go out into the thick of the fray, is asked to stay at the castle to watch the gate. He obeys, sacrificing his ambition to render heroic service in the battle. Of course, as the story unfolds, his service at the gate, while not conspicuous, proves to be the outstanding service of the day, and he is the one who earns the coveted silver star as the hero of the battle. The reward for his faithfulness is incidental. The point was that he forgot his personal ambition in order to serve where he was needed.

The obedience of Jesus meant sacrifice, and those who follow him must pay the same price. Jesus said so Himself, "If any man will come after me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross, and follow me, for whosoever will save his life shall lose it, and whosoever will lose his life for my sake shall find it" (Matthew 16:24,25).

Ian MacClaren's story "Beside the Bonny Brier Bush" gives a splendid illustration of this type of sacrifice. The old doctor, whom everyone loved, always was ready to sacrifice personal comforts in order to serve someone else. In the dead of night, in any sort of weather, he would make his way to the bedside of the sick. He never seemed to consider that his own health was often endangered in such service.

Of course, obedience demands faithful service always. Anyone who follows Jesus must serve. The servant is not above his master, and Jesus said that He came "not to be ministered unto, but to minister." Just as He served faithfully even to death, so we must serve faithfully too. Christian youth must not wait for somebody to serve them; they must be active in serving others as Christians.



Prayers of Power

Matthew 6:9-13; Luke 11:9-13; Philippians 1:3-11

Senior High-Young People (15-24 Years)

APRIL

Comments by Rev. George Weaver*

So You're the Leader

Perhaps you didn't ask for it, but you have an assignment to lead the devotional meeting on April 30! Let's get down to work and plan a meeting which will be worthy of Christ and His church and which will really be worthwhile to all who attend.

Make a Check List

A good meeting begins with *planning*. So you need a list to check off the steps of your preparation. The following will help you to get started:

Start early. If you want to do a good job and have lots of confidence in yourself, start planning ahead of time.

Advertise. Select certain illustrations concerning prayer from back issues of magazines. These can be drawings or photographs of children or adults, praying. Paste these to poster board and then letter in one of the following quotations:

Trouble and perplexity
Drive me to prayer,
And prayer drives away
Perplexity and trouble.

—Melancthon

More things are wrought by prayer
than this world dreams of.

—Tennyson

Make prayer the key of the day
and the lock of the night.

Add to the quotation an invitation to attend the meeting to learn more concerning "Prayers of Power." The invitation should state clearly the time and place. Place these posters where they will be seen by the young people of your society.

Plan the service. You will want to choose with care all those who will assist you in presenting the program. Avoid choosing those who have participated recently. By asking different persons to share, you will add variety to the service and also strengthen their leadership ability.

Be certain to include special features to the program. Instrumental or vocal solos are always appropriate. In addition, ask someone to read a poem which will illustrate the topic. "What Is Prayer?" by James Montgomery would be suitable. Another possibility might be to have someone give a brief talk on a particular incident of an answer to prayer.

Select hymns on the theme of prayer.

Topic Presentation

The following acrostic is a suggestion for presenting the topic. It will be noted that each of the letters introduces one facet of prayer. The thoughts presented are not intended to be complete, and those assigned to present them should do more than just read the material included here. Also, notice that the background Scripture is woven into the discussion of the various attitudes of prayer.

*Mr. Weaver is pastor of the Otterbein United Brethren in Christ Church of Waynesboro, Pennsylvania.

The leader should introduce the topic with a brief statement concerning the purpose of the discussion. Youth need to learn how to pray powerfully. This means more than just "repeating together" the Lord's Prayer or a familiar prayer at meals or bedtime. Direct the group's attention to the place prayer had in the life of Jesus and in the early church. Many references are made in the Book of Acts to prayer and what occurred when the believers in Christ prayed. Attention could also be called to the fact that all the great leaders of the Christian faith have been great men of prayer. It was Martin Luther who said, "I have so much to do today that I must spend several hours in prayer."

Talk #1

"P" is for *preparation*. One of the simplest definitions of prayer is that it is communication between a person and God. While this communication may take any one of several forms, it is always undergirded by preparation.

How may we speak to God so as to be heard? When we seek to communicate with a person, we first seek to find him. Where is God? Have you found Him? Jesus said, "Seek, and ye shall find; knock, and it shall be opened unto you . . . and he that seeketh findeth; and to him that knocketh it shall be opened" (Luke 11:9,10).

Talk #2

"R" is for *response*. We readily respond to those who are warm and friendly. They seem to draw us out and cause us to share with them our most intimate thoughts. God has shown us all the warmth of a "friend that sticketh closer than a brother." Indeed, He has given us love even in the midst of our rebellion. Why shouldn't we respond to His invitation to bring our needs to Him?

Also, we learn to lean on those who are strong. Who is stronger than God? Who has given to us greater promises and offered to us the strength needed for life? We know "there is none other name under heaven given among men" which offers a greater hope than the name of Jesus Christ. Why not then respond to His gracious invitation to ask what we will in His name?

Talk #3

"A" is for *adoration*. As Jesus taught His disciples to pray, He used the words, "Hallowed be thy name" (Matthew 6:9). When we have known God and responded to His grace, our most natural response should be to worship Him. This is the response noted in the experiences of Moses, Isaiah, Paul, and many others mentioned in the Scriptures.

Prayer then must include the same feeling which the Psalmist expressed with the words, "Bless the Lord, O my soul." But this adoration of our Heavenly Father is more than polite phrases which we have been taught from our youth up—it is a feeling of love from the heart which will not be silenced until it has spoken of its devotion to a loving God.

Talk #4

"Y" is for *yearning*. "As the hart pants after the water brooks, so panteth my soul after thee, O God" (Psalm 42:1). He has expressed the sincere desire of one who longs to be in the presence of God. For him, prayer is more than just keeping an appointment in church or at the table at the bedside. He longs for the moment when all else can be put aside and he can drink deeply from the water of God's fellowship.

Certainly, no one can learn to pray powerfully until there is a longing in his heart to come often into the presence of God. Notice how a child who loves his parents longs to be with them. A child will impatiently for Dad to finish a task and then lovingly climbs into his lap. So it ought to be with our Father—our love should be great that we long for those quiet moments when we slip into His presence for prayer.

Talk #5

"E" is for *earnestness*. Notice that the aspects of prayer are pointing out that it is something vastly more important than we perhaps ever thought it to be.

There is a lot of truth in the statement "Prayer is work, prayer works, and prayer leads to work." Prayers of power have the quality of earnestness about them, for those who pray powerfully persevere in their approach to God. Note the prayer of Paul in Philippians 1:3-11. He prayed "upon every remembrance" for his friends. In reading this prayer, we cannot miss the urgent tone of his intercession for them. He was confident that God would complete the perfect work He had begun in them, but his earnest desire was that they should be "filled with the fruits of righteousness . . . unto the glory and praise of God" (Philippians 1:11).

Talk #6

"R" is for *receptivity*. Remember that we are told by Christ to pray in faith, believing that God hears and answers. Many of our prayers are not powerful, simply because we do not believe the things for which we pray are important and because we are not convinced of the power of prayer as demonstrated in God's answers. God's word tells us that "ye have not, because ye ask not" (James 4:2b). God has extended the privilege of prayer, and we must receive it and use it well.

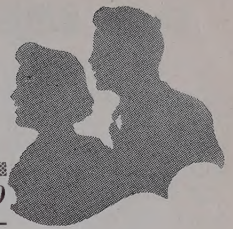
Make A Summary

The leader should use the closing moments to summarize the talks concerning prayer with a challenge to young people to pray powerfully. Explain the Quiet Hour as observed by many Christian Endeavorers. Certainly, these moments should include time of prayer. Even as Paul prayed for his friends, so should we. The hymn *Time to Be Holy* could be used to introduce this time of prayer, and the petitions mentioned by Paul in Philippians 1:3-11 could be a guide to the things for which prayer should be offered.

When the Rain Descends

No. 4 in a Series: "April Showers"

Matthew 7:24-29



Senior High (12-14 Years)

APRIL 30

Comments by Dr. Jerome DeJong*

Introduction

This topic deals with the theme of proper building in order to meet all of life's problems. It would be interesting to bring a printed report to the meeting. This will illustrate the careful planning necessary for building and therefore will also be a means of illustrating the necessity of planning carefully for life. Make arrangements for a person to serve as an illustration at the close of the Conclusion.) If you know of an architect in your church or community, it might be interesting to have him illuminate this topic with some explanation of his work. Be sure to include *The Church's One Foundation* in your opening song service.

Introduction

Can you remember when we sang the chorus in Sunday school, "The wise man built his house upon a rock, and the rains came tumbling down"? The familiar parable of Jesus containing this incident comes to the conclusion of the Sermon on the Mount. Jesus says, by way of introduction, "Therefore whoever heareth these sayings of mine, and doeth them. . . ." Let us pause and consider what Jesus is teaching us about building, especially our lives, in this parable.

Things Necessary in Building

As Christian young people we are building. We are building our own lives. On this foundation we are also building the church. The future of our nation and world is also being built largely by Christian young people. (At this point you may profitably read the first stanza of the poem by Edward E. Dietz, "We Would Be Building," which you may have it sung as a solo to the tune of Finlandia.)

In order to build we surely need a blueprint. (Here read Psalm 119:105.) How important it is for every young person to have an aim and purpose in life! This sense of direction must be received from God's Word. God's own eternal blueprint is so revealed in Ephesians 1:4; 2:7.

After the blueprint comes the foundation. (Have someone read Monday's Bible reading—I Corinthians 3:10,11; and then Friday's—Acts 4:7-12. Discuss, for a moment, the vital character of the foundation to the building. Why is good material essential in the foundation even though it will probably be hidden from view? In what way is Jesus the precious foundation stone?) A proper foundation is essential to true Christianity. It would be excellent for us to realize that this proper foundation consists of such essential truths as the deity of Jesus, His redeeming death, and His physical resurrection. We also observe that Jesus is called the cornerstone. In buildings today this is merely ornamental, but in ancient times it presented an integral part of the whole structure.

Dr. DeJong is minister of the Immanuel Reformed Church of Grand Rapids, Michigan.

QUESTIONS FOR DISCUSSION

1. How does one build a life on the foundation of Christ?
2. What materials are necessary in building a Christian life?
3. What are some of the evidences which show that a life is founded on Christ?
4. Who are living strong Christian lives and serve as examples to youth in our own church and community?
5. What are some of the storms that test the lives of Christian youth?
6. Why is a Christian youth better able to meet trials than one who is not a Christian?
7. How do trials sometimes help a Christian youth to become even stronger?

On the foundation goes the superstructure. It is certainly determined in height and weight by its foundation. The way one builds his life is likewise dependent on the kind of foundation he has laid. (Read Wednesday's Bible reading—I Corinthians 6:19,20.)

Another essential in building is supervision. Every good architect includes this in his plan. We too need to be supervised in our building, and God Himself is able to direct us in all our activities.

The Testing of the Building

(Read again Matthew 7:25.) How does one determine the real quality of the life he is building? It will not be tested in sunny weather. He will never see the leaks or the poorly soldered joints in sunshine. A building is tested by rain, wind, hail, and snow. It is then that the flaws appear. Then the quality of the building begins to show itself. Even so our lives will begin to show their real character "when the rain descends." It is in trials and testing that our real character shines forth. (Read I Peter 1:7 and Hebrews 12:6,7.)

Everyone will experience some of these problems sooner or later. We face such problems even now. Perhaps we have difficulties in school work or getting along with others. These testings are real! They too will reveal our character.

Another test of any building is its appearance to men. Is the structure pleasing or an eyesore? A pleasing structure brings credit to the architect and the builder. (Now read Ephesians 2:10.) As Christians we are the workmanship of God. Do you know why so many non-Christians refuse to accept Christianity? Not because of Jesus Christ, but because of Christians! I wonder if we demonstrate in our lives those qualities and characteristics that are pleasing to God and that commend God to unbelievers. "You are the only gospel this careless world will read; You are the sinners' Gospel; You are the scoffer's creed."

Does the building really represent the purpose of the architect? It is his vision that really determines the purpose of the building. Sometimes the architect must see far beyond his own time. Think of contemporary structure, the ridicule of the present

generation, but the pride of the future. So, it seems, our lives ought to reflect not our wills, but the eternal purposes of God!

The Character of the Building

It is the test of endurance that in the final analysis will determine the character of the building we are seeking to erect. There is an interesting passage in Romans 5:3-5 that illustrates this truth. To make the truth even more forceful, we quote from the translation of the Revised Standard Version, "More than that, we rejoice in our suffering, knowing that suffering produces endurance, and endurance produces character, and character produces hope, and hope does not disappoint us. . . ."

Many people have a lot to say about character education. There is really only one way to build character, and that is God's way. It is not the easy way, but it is the way that produces lasting results. The oyster cannot free itself of the irritating grain of sand, but it gradually deposits a smooth coating around it until a pearl is formed, for which men are willing to risk their lives. The most precious pearl is the life that a Christian youth has dedicated to the glory of God.

Some buildings remain for centuries as tributes to the genius of their architects and builders. Think, for example, of the magnificent Parthenon in Athens after all these centuries. Think of the Eiffel Tower in Paris and the Empire State Building in New York City as monuments to men's dreams and abilities. Then think of the lives of dedicated men and women who have become monuments to God's saving power and matchless grace.

Conclusion

Read the topic Scripture (Matthew 7:24-29). It should be even more meaningful after you have discussed the importance of building a Christian life.

Point out a toy house sitting on a table, a picture of a beautiful house on an easel or a bulletin board, or the drawing of a house sketched on a chalkboard as an illustration of the kind of life each Christian youth should build. (Be sure to make necessary preparation before the meeting.)

Then gather into a circle around or facing the house and sing some of the stanzas of *Living for Jesus*.

After a moment of silence, ask several members of your society to lead in sentence prayers and then repeat your benediction together.

Hymns listed in program outlines in THE CHRISTIAN ENDEAVOR WORLD have been selected from CHRISTIAN ENDEAVOR SONGS. This book, with an attractive red and white paper cover, contains 113 songs and hymns for youth meetings. Available from International Society of Christian Endeavor, 1221 East Broad Street, Columbus 16, Ohio. Price: 50c each, \$5 per dozen, \$40 per hundred.

Daily Bible Readings for Your Quiet Hour

Here are the daily Bible readings selected for use in connection with the weekly Christian Endeavor topics for April, 1961. These particular selections have been chosen because they give valuable food for thought in connection with the topic for the Sunday to follow.

These readings are grouped together on one page in order that Endeavorers may easily use them. Why not clip out this section and place it in your Bible, ready for your daily Quiet Hour observance.



Junior High (Intermediate)

Daily Readings

M. Mar. 27 The Resurrection Foretold Job 19:25-29
T. Mar. 28 "When I Awake" Psalm 17:7-15
W. Mar. 29 The Resurrection Typified Ezekiel 37:1-14
T. Mar. 30 The Resurrection Proclaimed John 5:24-29
F. Mar. 31 The Resurrection Preached Acts 17:29-34
S. Apr. 1 The Resurrection Promised Revelation 21:1-7
Sun. Apr. 2 Topic—The Crowning Fact I Corinthians 15:50-58 (Easter)

M. Apr. 3 God's Command to Abram Genesis 17:1-8
T. Apr. 4 The Lord's Law Is Perfect Psalm 19:7-14
W. Apr. 5 Jesus Our Example Luke 2:39-52
T. Apr. 6 Christ's Command to Us Matthew 5:43-48
F. Apr. 7 "For the Perfecting of the Saints" Ephesians 4:1-15
S. Apr. 8 Perfect in Christ Colossians 1:21-29
Sun. Apr. 9 Topic—Go On to Perfection Hebrews 6:1-3; James 1:2-4

M. Apr. 10 Moses in Pharaoh's House Acts 7:20-22
T. Apr. 11 Eli Trains Samuel I Samuel 3:1-10
W. Apr. 12 David's Zeal to Serve God Psalm 42
T. Apr. 13 Requirement for True Greatness Matthew 20:20-28
F. Apr. 14 Christ Chooses His Workers Luke 6:13-49
S. Apr. 15 Timothy in Training Acts 16:1-5
Sun. Apr. 16 Topic—On-the-Job Training Acts 12:12,25; 13:4,5,13

M. Apr. 17 The Line of Judgment II Kings 21:10-16
T. Apr. 18 Majesty and Grace of Christ Malachi 3:1-6
W. Apr. 19 Birth of Our Divine Example Matthew 2:1-10
T. Apr. 20 Christ Pleads for Godly Living Luke 21:34-36
F. Apr. 21 Humble Submission I Peter 5:5-11
S. Apr. 22 Reward for Christian Living II Peter 3:10-15
Sun. Apr. 23 Topic—The Divine Plumb Line Amos 7:1-14

M. Apr. 24 David Encourages Prayer Psalm 67:1-7
T. Apr. 25 God Answers Prayer Isaiah 58:1-12
W. Apr. 26 Daniel Prays for His People Daniel 9:1-19
T. Apr. 27 Jesus Teaches Model Prayer Luke 11:1-8
F. Apr. 28 Jesus' Prayer for Disciples John 17:1-19
S. Apr. 29 The Early Church Prays Acts 20:36-38
Sun. Apr. 30 Topic—Prayers of Power Matthew 6:9-13; Luke 11:9-13; Philippians 1:3-11

Senior High-Young People's

Daily Readings

M. Mar. 27 Resurrection Promised Psalm 16:8-11
T. Mar. 28 Matthew Describes the Resurrection Matthew 28:1-15
W. Mar. 29 Mark Describes the Resurrection Mark 16:1-14
T. Mar. 30 Luke Describes the Resurrection Luke 24:1-12

F. Mar. 31 John Describes the Resurrection John 20:1-23
S. Apr. 1 Alive Forevermore Revelation 1:17,18
Sun. Apr. 2 Topic—"He Arose Again the Third Day" I Corinthians 15:3-8, 13-23. (Easter)

M. Apr. 3 Great Is Thy Faithfulness Lamentations 3:22-26
T. Apr. 4 The Faithfulness of God Psalm 89:1-8
W. Apr. 5 God's Promise of Faithfulness Psalm 89:24-33
T. Apr. 6 Faithful to All Generations Psalm 119:89-96
F. Apr. 7 Faithful to Answer Psalm 143:1-6
S. Apr. 8 Faithful to His Covenant Deuteronomy 7:6-14
Sun. Apr. 9 Topic—God Proves His Faithfulness Genesis 6:5-8, 14-22; Genesis 7:11-17; Genesis 8:15-20

M. Apr. 10 What Faith Is Hebrews 11:1-6
T. Apr. 11 Faithful Men of Old Hebrews 11:7-14
W. Apr. 12 The Faith of Moses Hebrews 11:23-29
T. Apr. 13 Faith for Prayer James 1:1-6
F. Apr. 14 Faith for Deliverance Daniel 3:13-18
S. Apr. 15 The Just Live by Faith Hebrews 10:38,39
Sun. Apr. 16 Topic—Does Our Faith Measure Up? I Kings 17:1-7; I Kings 18:41-46

M. Apr. 17 Jesus Enters a Boat Luke 8:23-25
T. Apr. 18 Jesus Stills the Seas Mark 4:36-41
W. Apr. 19 The Only Salvation Ephesians 2:4-9
T. Apr. 20 His Care for Us I Peter 5:6-11
F. Apr. 21 Commit Thy Ways Psalm 37:3-5
S. Apr. 22 All Things through Christ Philippians 4:12-15
Sun. Apr. 23 Topic—With Jesus in the Storm Matthew 8:23-27

M. Apr. 24 No Foundation But Christ I Corinthians 3:10,11
T. Apr. 25 Man's Works to be Tried I Corinthians 3:12,13
W. Apr. 26 The Temple of God I Corinthians 6:19,20
T. Apr. 27 The Sure Foundation II Timothy 2:19-22
F. Apr. 28 Our Cornerstone Acts 4:7-12
S. Apr. 29 Build in Faith Jude 20,21
Sun. Apr. 30 Topic—When the Rain Descends Matthew 7:24-29

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COMING EVENT For Your Prayer Calendar

Here is a list of Christian Endeavor conventions and conferences scheduled to be held during the next few months. Remember these events in your daily Quiet Hour.

APRIL

7-9—Washington, Lynden
14-15—Pennsylvania (Spring Executive)
20-23—Oregon, Roseburg
28-29—Kentucky, Louisville
MAY
5-7—Middle Atlantic Regional Conference, York, New York

JUNE

9-11—New York, Briarcliff Manor, King's Co
15-18—Texas, Houston
21-24—North Carolina, Crestmont Assembly Grounds (Junior Conference)

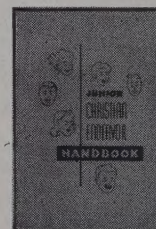
JUNIOR CE MEETINGS The Quarterly for Junior

Topics for APRIL

Apr. 2 He Lives! Matthew 28
Apr. 9 William Tyndale Luke 4:1
Apr. 16 David Livingstone Matthew 25:1
Apr. 23 Elisabeth Elliott Matthew 19:1
Apr. 30 Good News to Share Luke 24:4

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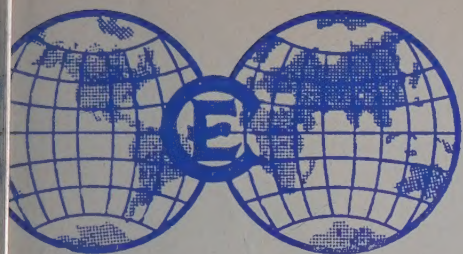
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NEWS

from around the world

cord number of Christian Endeavor societies—13 in all—meets each Sunday at 7 P.M. at the Church of the Open Door in Los Angeles. Pastor is Dr. J. Vernon Lee; Christian Endeavor director is John Spasian. Sunbeams is the name of the youngest group, for ages 3-4. The Ambassador Society, for those over 47, had 116 at Christmas party, honoring six missionaries on furlough.

letter to the new President of the United States, sent by Paul's Union Senior Christian Endeavor of LaMarque, Texas, assures of their prayers each Sunday evening calls attention to Proverbs 3:5,6 and 29.

rt-wave radio owners will want to tune to a new 15-minute program called "Attention Teen-Agers" which begins March 22 Station HCJB, Quito, Ecuador. The program will be aired at 10:00 P.M. E.S.T. and a special series of youth broadcasts preceded by Samuel J. Williams of Columbus, Mo. The April 12 program will feature Endeavorers.

enty young people attended the annual Christian Endeavor youth camp at Goiania, Brazil, under the direction of Richard and Collee Ewing, formerly active in Colorado Christian Endeavor.

the top of their league is the current record of the Christian Endeavor basketball team of Williston Congregational Church, Portland, Maine. This group copped the championship four of the last five years and hopes to repeat in 1961. The local society is selling candy to raise money to purchase uniforms.

April 16-22 is National Youth Temperance Education Week. Materials for this important observance may be secured from Youth Temperance Council, 1730 Chicago Avenue, Evanston, Illinois.

Chicago (Illinois) Endeavorers are pictured at their annual Birthday Rally February 5 as they participated in the hymn sing led by Robert C. Ross. The rally was held at Metropolitan Community Church and featured a pageant showing the history and growth of Christian Endeavor, directed by William Bonnema and Mrs. Alice Mayfield.



Members of the Allen League of Greater Bethel A.M.E. Church, Miami, Florida, are shown at a local youth rally (left, above) during Christian Endeavor Week and (right, above) as they gathered food for convalescent patients and needy families of the church and community. Other events of the week, according to report of Mrs. Marian Shannon, counselor of the society, included a radio program, a visit to an old folks' home, proclamation of the Week by Mayor Robert King High, and a gift to International Society of 10c for every year of Christian Endeavor's existence.

Michigan Endeavorers have been "blasting off" at space-minded CE-Arama programs throughout the state in January, under the direction of state union officers. A replica of a space rocket and realistic sound effects have added to the programs. Elwood Dunn, general secretary, reports a special emphasis on the pledge, with over 3,000 youth and adults having opportunity to sign the Christian Endeavor covenant. Albert Nieboer is Michigan Union president.

Chicago (Illinois) Endeavorers brought toys and clothing for Uhlich Children's Home to the annual Christmas Carol Sing. Rev. George Nickels, assistant pastor of First Reformed Church of Roseland, was speaker, with Kenneth Hommema leading the singing.



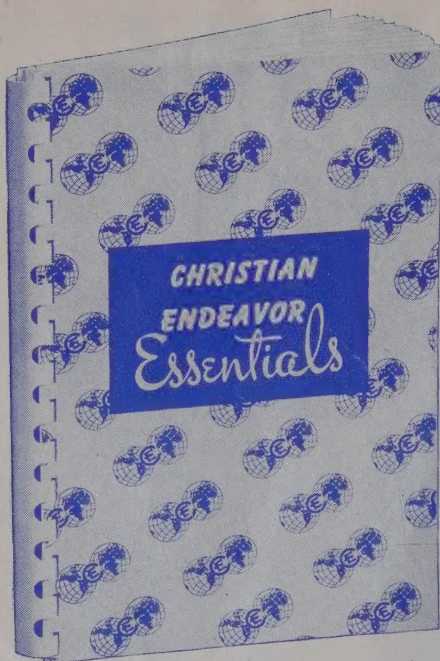
Poling Alumni Foundation No. 1 of Cleveland, Ohio, is holding its annual banquet on February 22, with Dr. Daniel A. Poling as speaker. President of this group is Mrs. C. A. Berry; R. R. Ehrhart is banquet chairman.

Margaret Self of Birmingham, Alabama, was selected "The Western Section's Best Citizen for 1960" and was awarded a trophy at the annual meeting of the Ensley Chamber of Commerce. With her husband, Grady, she serves as advisor of the Christian Endeavor group at Wylam Presbyterian Church. Both are also active in the Alabama Christian Endeavor Union. Her work with youth was one of the factors which led to her selection for this high honor.

Christian Endeavor Week activities in Erie County, Pennsylvania, included a television program February 4 over WSEE on "What Can I Do for Peace?" and two radio broadcasts on February 5. Other birthday events were the annual banquet February 4, a special Christian Endeavor window in downtown Erie, and five-minute radio interviews of Christian Endeavorers over WJET. Banquet speaker was Donald McHenry, with Lavern Billig as toastmaster.

Many reports of Christian Endeavor Week activities will appear in the April issue of THE CHRISTIAN ENDEAVOR WORLD.

Providence Presbyterian Church Endeavorers in Bowling Green, Missouri, took charge of the evening church service on January 29. Brenda Carr was song leader, Bess Gamm and Frank Becker spoke, and others who participated were Dennis Goodman, Linda Taylor, Laddie Gillette, Mary Becker, and Claudean Eddington, president of the Missouri Union. A birthday banquet at the church on January 28 was another feature of the birthday observance.



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